

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Tsutomu Okada	Examiner:	Unassigned
Serial No:	Unassigned	Art Unit:	Unassigned
Filed:	Herewith	Docket:	17307
For:	HIGH FREQUENCY SURGICAL INSTRUMENT	Dated:	December 9, 2003

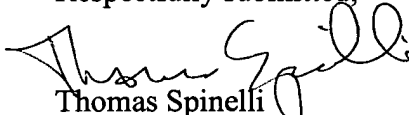
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CLAIM OF PRIORITY

Sir:

Applicant in the above-identified application hereby claims the right of priority in connection with Title 35 U.S.C. § 119 and in support thereof, will submit in due course a certified copy of Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-361163, dated December 12, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,


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Dated: December 9, 2003


Thomas Spinelli